

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

BOND, Christopher S. "Kit" (Republican)
Senior Senator from Missouri
Elected 1986 to US Senate
Present term expires January 2005



BACKGROUND

Born: St. Louis, Missouri - 6 March 1939

Home: Mexico, Missouri

Marital status: Married (Linda Holwick) - 1 child from previous marriage

Religion: Presbyterian

Education: Princeton Univ, BA, 1960; Univ of Virginia Law School, LLB, 1963 (1st in his class)

Military: None

Profession: Lawyer

Political: MO Asst Atty Gen, 1969-70; MO State auditor, 1971-73; MO Governor, 1973-7; 1981-5; Chmn, Republican Governors Assoc, 1975; unsuccessful candidate for governor 1976 and for US House, 1968. Defeated LtGov Harriett Woods (D) in 1986 to succeed the retiring Sen Tom Eagleton (D), thus becoming the only freshman Republican to be elected that year to the Senate. Reelected in 1998 with 53% of the vote.

Sen Bond is a conservative who has free market and hawkish convictions. Staunch supporter of the National Guard; cochair of the National Guard Caucus.

In the 107th Congress, introduced S. 967, a bill to create an outside panel to measure the current state of military readiness. Stated that the Pentagon was in a "sorry situation where we are preparing to send our airmen and women into combat without the spare parts we need." Offered his opinion that cannibalization of spare parts is a very questionable process. Believed that DoD's "winner-take-all" strategy in relation to the Joint Strike Fighter contract competition could hurt the tactical and military aircraft industrial base and ultimately, national security. Introduced S. 861, to enhance small business access to Federal contracting opportunities. Introduced S. 1909, to require the establishment of a unified combatant command for homeland security of the United States.

In the 108th Congress, expressed strong opposition to an amdt restricting funds made available for IMET assistance for Indonesian military personnel. Said it was very clear to the Government of Indonesia and its people that there is a legitimate terrorism threat in that country today. In early 2003, argued that time is not on our side with respect to Iraq. Asserted "every moment of delay allows Saddam Hussein to ready himself for battle, and the more ready he is will quickly translate into higher casualties among US and allied forces." Believed the President was on the right path—not the easy path—but the right path. Closely followed the case of Joan Schmidt, the mother of Maj Harry Schmidt, the Air Force pilot who dropped a bomb in April 2002 that killed four and wounded eight Canadians in Afghanistan. Mrs. Schmidt was trying to prevent the promotion of Lt Gen T. Michael Moseley, whose handling of the situation had been criticized as biased.

Additional: Boeing Co's McDonnell Douglas Corp, maker of the F-15 and C-17, in his State.

Married Linda Holwick on August 4, 2002. She was the finance director for ex-presidential candidate Steve Forbes.

AF Bases: Whiteman AFB; Lambert-St. Louis IAP (ANG); Rosecrans Memorial Apt (ANG)

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